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IN THE

Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1973

No. 73-385

MARSHALL WOMACK,
Petitioner,

versus

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Respondent.

PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

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IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
OCTOBER TERM, 1973

No.

MARSHALL WOMACK,
Petitioner,

versus

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Respondent.

PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

The petitioner Marshall Womack, respectfully prays that a writ of certiorari issue to review the judgment and opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in this case.

OPINION BELOW

The opinion of the Court of Appeals, not yet reported, appears in Appendix B, infra. The opinion of the Court of Appeals on Motion for Rehearing, not yet reported, appears in Appendix C. No opinion was rendered by the District Court for the Western District of Texas.

JURISDICTION

The judgment of the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit (Appendix A, infra) was entered on June 29, 1973. A timely petition for rehearing (Appendix C, infra) was denied on August 2, 1973 when the judgment of the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit modified its opinion of June 29, 1973 by substituting for Part 5 (Slip opinion, pages 24-27 inclusive) a new Part 5, and at the same time overruling the Motion for Rehearing. This Petition for Certiorari was filed within 30 days of that date. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. §1254 (1).

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Appellant Womack was "held to answer for a crime" without a Grand Jury indictment, as required by the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

2. Whether an erroneous charge on the burden of proof on a defensive theory is fundamentally unfair and constitutes error in violation of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS INVOLVED

Constitution of the United States of America, Fifth Amendment:

"No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, * * * nor be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; * * *."

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Marshall Womack, Appellant herein, was convicted on Counts One, Two and Six of a seven count indictment. He was found not guilty on the Fourth Count and Counts Three, Five and Seven had been previously dismissed. His sentence was three years on each count to run concurrently. The First Count charged conspiracy to defraud Home Savings Association of Odessa, Texas with Co-Defendants Kenneth L. Musgrave, Jack Bryant and Homer E. Koon, Jr. Musgrave, Bryant and Koon were tried first and Musgrave and Bryant were both convicted and Koon was acquitted. On appeal, Bryant was acquitted as a matter of law and Musgrave's case was reversed. Appellant Womack's trial was severed from the trial of the other three Defendants due to his illness, he was tried separately and convicted, but his case was reversed. *U.S. vs. Musgrave*, 444 Fed.2d 755 (5th Cir. 1971); and *United States vs. Womack*, 454 Fed.2d 1337 (5th Cir. 1972).

In Count Two Appellant Womack was charged with aiding and abetting Musgrave in submitting fraudulent appraisals to the association on two pieces of real property, and in Count Six Womack was charged with Jack Bryant with aiding and abetting Musgrave in causing Home Savings Association to make loans to Appellant Womack without sufficient collateral to secure such

loans. The gist of the charge brought by the prosecution was that Musgrave, then Chairman of the Board of the Association, arranged for the granting of two loans, one to Womack and the other to Womack's nominee, Koon. The loans were designed to enable Womack to purchase Musgrave's controlling interest in the Association. Musgrave's attorney Bryant prepared the contract, disbursed the loan proceeds and collected a large fee. All charges in effect alleged that the four individuals named in the indictment misled the Association into making two large loans secured by a grossly inadequate collateral.

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE WRIT

IN OVERRULING PETITIONER'S OBJECTION TO THE TRIAL COURT'S ACTION IN "REDRAWING" THE INDICTMENT, THE FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS HAS RENDERED A DECISION IN CONFLICT WITH THE DECISIONS OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS, HAS DECIDED AN IMPORTANT QUESTION OF FEDERAL CRIMINAL PROCEDURE IN A WAY IN CONFLICT WITH APPLICABLE DECISIONS OF THIS COURT AND HAS SANCTIONED ACTION BY THE TRIAL COURT THAT SO FAR DEPARTS FROM THE ACCEPTED AND USUAL COURSE OF JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS AS TO CALL FOR AN EXERCISE OF THIS COURT'S POWER OF SUPERVISION.

In the trial of a conspiracy case with multiple defendants, upon a severance, if some defendants, are acquitted and others convicted, with the cases of the convicted defendants being reversed and retried, the Fifth Amendment rights of the defendants to "indictment of a Grand Jury" are denied if the trial court "redraws" the indictment, instead of sending it back to the grand jury for their consideration.

The first count of the indictment as drawn by the Grand Jury was worded as follows:

> "From on or about May 25, 1968, the exact date being to the Grand Jury unknown, and continuously thereafter until on or about July 25, 1968, in the Midland-Odessa Division of the Western District of Texas, and in divers other places within the jurisdiction of this Court, *Kenneth L. Musgrave, Marshall Womack, Jack Bryant, and Homer E. Koon, Jr., defendants herein,* willfully and knowingly did combine, conspire, confederate and agree together and with each other, and with persons whose names to the Grand Jury are not known, to commit offenses against the United States * * *." (Emphasis added)

In reading the indictment to the jury, the Trial Judge altered the charging language of Count One to read as follows:

> "From on or about May 25, 1968, the exact date being to the Grand Jurors unknown, and

continuously thereafter until on or about July 25, 1968, in the Midland-Odessa Division of the Western District of Texas, and in divers other places within the jurisdiction of this court, *Kenneth L. Musgrave and Marshall Womack, defendants herein, and Jack Bryant and Homer E. Koon, Jr.*, willfully and knowingly did combine, conspire, confederate and agree together and with each other, and with persons whose names to the Grand Jury are not known, to commit offenses against the United States * * *." (Emphasis added)

The Court in four places in the record admitted a-amending the indictment prior to the reading of the same to the jury. At pages 1038-1048 of the Appendix we find the following:

"Mr. Smith: The defendant, Musgrave, suggests that it would be proper under all of the facts and circumstances of the *allegations concerning Mr. Bryant having been indicted* (emphasis ours) * * *."

"The Court: *I haven't informed the jury that he has been indicted in this case.* The indictment was read. I didn't read that part of it. (Emphasis ours).

Mr. Smith: The Government did.

The Court: *No, that has been deleted from the indictment.* (Emphasis ours) The indictment I am going to give the jury is not going to show that. *It is not going to show him a defendant.*

I redrew it myself to eliminate that so that it will not be in it. (Emphasis ours)

The Court: The Grand Jury indictment, *it will not go to the jury in this form and there will be no charge in the Grand Jury indictment that will show that he is a defendant. Now, the way I will charge the jury, you will receive a copy of it, and it will not show him to be charged by the Grand Jury.* (Emphasis ours)"

The Court thus admits (1) "I didn't read that part of it;" (2) "No, that has been deleted from the indictment;" (3) "It is not going to show him a defendant. I redrew it myself to eliminate that so that it will not be in it;" and finally, (4) "The Grand Jury indictment, it will not go to the jury in this form and there will be no charge in the Grand Jury indictment that will show that he is a defendant." (Referring to Bryant).

We believe the Court's admissions, as here set out, that he "redrew" the indictment represents more than a withdrawal of a portion of the indictment not supported by the evidence. In this case, the Court did more than simply eliminate surplusage (See p. 32a, Court's Opinion); the Court added the acquitted co-defendants as co-conspirators. To redraw an indictment to remove the name of two of the major parties as defendants in the charging part of the indictment and to add them as co-conspirators is certainly an amendment and requires the Appellant "to answer for a **** crime not on the presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, ***" *See Ex Parte Bain*, 121 U. S. 1 (1886); *Russell vs. U.S.*, 369 U.S. 729 (1962), and *United States vs. DeCavalcante*, 440 Fed.2d 1264 (3rd Cir. 1971).

Appellant Womack contends that the action of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in this case, in addition to conflicting with the decision of the Third Circuit in *U. S. vs. DeCavalcante, supra,* conflicts with the Supreme Court ruling in *Ex Parte Bain, supra,* and *Russel vs. U. S., supra.*

In the *Bain* case the Trial Court sought to justify its action as the elimination of surplusage when it deleted the allegation that the defendant banker had sought to deceive the "Comptroller of the Currency" leaving the allegation that he intended to deceive "agents" of the latter. The Court said the elimination of this allegation violated the Fifth Amendment guarantee of indictment by the Grand Jury. The Court there said:

> "The party can only be tried on the indictment as found by such grand jury, and especially upon all its language found in the charging part of the instrument *** How can the Court say that there may not have been more than one of the jurors who found this indictment who was satisfied that the false report was made to deceive the comptroller, but was not convinced that it was made to deceive anybody else? And how can it be said that, with these words stricken out, it is the indictment which was found by the grand jury? If it lies within the province of a court to change the charging part of an indictment to suit its own notions of what it ought to have been, or what the Grand Jury would probably have made it if their intention had been called to suggested

> changes, the great importance which the common law attaches to an indictment by a Grand Jury, as a prerequisite to a prisoner's trial for a crime, and without which the Constitution says 'no person shall be held to answer' may be frittered away until its value is almost destroyed."

There is no way that it can now be said that if this indictment had been presented to the Grand Jury with only two of the named individuals shown as co-defendants, and the other two shown simply as co-conspirators that the Grand Jury would have voted a true bill. The original Grand Jury indicted four people for an alleged criminal conspiracy. Possessed of knowledge that two of the four alleged conspirators had been acquitted the Grand Jury might not be willing to place the entire responsibility of the remaining two defendants, when the other two have been freed. Even if willing to indict Musgrave and Womack for conspiracy with each other, they might have been unwilling to indict the two remaining defendants, or either of them, for conspiring with an acquitted defendant. Can it then be said, with two of the four named charged as co-defendants and the other two simply listed as co-conspirators that it is the indictment which was found by the Grand Jury? As was said in *Overstreet vs. U. S.*, 321 Fed. 2d 459, 462 (5th Cir. 1963), *Cert. denied,* (1964), 376 U. S. 919: "Neither the District Judge nor the United States attorney is a grand jury. Neither can determine what the grand jury might have done. Each is bound by what the grand jury has done. * * *". See also *Stirone vs. U. S.*, 361 U.S. 212 (1960), where the Court quotes the Bain case with approval.

The offense of conspiracy has been branded as the "prosecutor's darling." The widespread embrace of this theory of prosecution, coupled with the provision for severance, can result, as it did here, in the acquittal of some defendants and the conviction of others, all charged in a single indictment. When this occurs, in the event of a reversal of the cases of the convicted defendants, how should the trial court proceed in retrying these defendants when the indictment alleges the names of the acquitted defendants as well. Resolution of this quandry is an important question of Federal procedure which potentially affects large numbers of appellants and should be determined by this Court, consistent with the Fifth Amendment rights of a defendant to "indictment of a grand jury."

IN OVERRULING THE PETITIONER'S OBJECTION TO THE TRIAL COURT'S ERRONEOUS CHARGE ON THE BURDEN OF PROOF ON A DEFENSIVE THEORY, THE FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS HAS RENDERED A DECISION IN CONFLICT WITH THE DECISION OF THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS, AND HAS SANCTIONED ACTION BY THE TRIAL COURT THAT SO FAR DEPARTS FROM THE ACCEPTED AND USUAL COURSE OF JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS AS TO CALL FOR AN EXERCISE OF THIS COURT'S POWER OF SUPERVISION.

An erroneous charge on the burden of proof on a defensive theory is fundamentally unfair and consti-

tutes error in violation of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

On the Appellant's defense of good faith the Court instructed as follows:

> "As I have told you, good faith on the part of the defendant is complete defense to the charge alleged in the indictment. For example, if you believe beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant, Musgrave, in good faith believed the market value of the collateral for the loans was adequate, or that he in good faith relied on the appraisals and financial statements submitted to him, or that he in good faith believed that the properties were worth the price quoted and were sufficient collateral and security, as I have defined these terms for you, then this good faith on his part is a complete defense to the relevant counts in the indictment, similarly, should you find that the defendant Womack acted in good faith as I have defined it to you concerning the actions mentioned in the indictment, his good faith, belief and reliance on the appraisals and financial statements or the property value as sufficient collateral and security would likewise provide him with complete defense as to the relevant counts in the Grand Jury indictment." (Appendix 1475-1476)

Both Musgrave and Womack objected to this charge as being on the weight of the evidence.

The Court in its original opinion held in effect that an instruction shifting the burden of proof to the defendant on the defensive theory of good faith is no prejudicial error. This Appellant urges that such holding directly conflicts with the holding of *Smith vs. Smith,* 454 Fed.2d 572 (5th Cir.); and the holding of the Eighth Circuit in *Stump vs. Bennett,* 398 Fed.2d 111 (8th Cir.). The Court should reexamine the present holding in the light of *Smith* and in the light of *Chapman vs. California,* 386 U.S. 18, 87 S.Ct. 824, as to harmless error on issues of constitutional statute.

In *Smith* this Court held, (1) that the jury could not be given a choice as to the burden of proof on a theory of defense; (2) that a shifting of the burden of proof on a theory of defense was constitutional error rendering the trial fundamentally unfair; and (3) that prejudice must be presumed from such error. See also *United States vs. Driscoll,* 454 Fed.2d 792 (5th Cir.).

The ruling of *Smith vs. Smith, supra,* holding the shifting of the burden of proof to be constitutional error, brings into effect the rule of *Chapman vs. California,* 386 U.S. 18, 87 S.Ct. 824, that "a Federal constitutional error is reversible error unless the Court can declare that it was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt." See also *Fahy vs. Connecticut,* 375 U.S. 85, 84 S.Ct. 229.

Under these authorities, Appellant Womack submits that the opinion of the Court in relation to this error is reversible.

The obvious inconsistency between the Fifth Circuit opinion in *Smith vs. Smith* and *U. S. vs. Driscoll, supra,*

and the holding in the case at bar is calculated to cause such confusion that the bar and judiciary within such circuit cannot determine what the law is in relation to the placement of the burden of proof on a theory of defense. Such confusion must be eliminated by an opinion of this Court.

CONCLUSION

For these reasons, a writ of certiorari should issue to review the judgment and opinion of the Fifth Circuit.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lubbock, Texas
Attorneys for the Petitioner,
Marshall Womack

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the ____ day of August, 1973 three copies of the Petition for Writ of Certiorari were mailed, postage prepaid, to Solicitor General, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530 and Ralph E. Harris, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Federal Building, El Paso, Texas. I further certify that all parties required to be served have been served.

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COUNSEL FOR
PETITIONER

APPENDIX A

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT
October Term, 1972

No. 72-2305

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff-Appellee,

versus D.C. Docket
No. MO 69-CR-14

KENNETH L. MUSGRAVE and
MARSHALL WOMACK,
Defendants-Appellants.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas

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Before RIVES, GOLDBERG and MORGAN,
Circuit Judges.

JUDGMENT

This cause came on to be heard on the transcript of the record from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, and was argued by counsel;

ON CONSIDERATION WHEREOF, It is now here ordered and adjudged by this Court that the judgment of the said District Court in this cause be, and the same is hereby, affirmed.

Issued as Mandate: June 29, 1973

APPENDIX B

IN THE
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

No. 72-2305

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff-Appellee,
versus

KENNETH L. MUSGRAVE and
MARSHALL WOMACK,
Defendants-Appellants.

Appeals from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas

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(June 29, 1973)

Before RIVES, GOLDBERG and MORGAN,
Circuit Judges.

RIVES, Circuit Judge: Appellants, Kenneth L. Musgrave and Marshall Womack, along with Jack Bryant and Homer E. Koon, Jr., were charged in a seven-count indictment[1] with violation of 18 U.S.C.A. §§ 371,[2] 657[3] and 1006[4] stemming from their involve-

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[1]"The first count charged Musgrave, Bryant, Womack and Koon with conspiring to defraud the federally insured Association. The second count charged that Musgrave, aided and abetted by Womack, fraudulently prepared and submitted grossly inflated appraisal reports on real property securing the loans. The fourth count charged that Bryant, aided and abetted by Musgrave and Womack, unlawfully 'participated' in the proceeds of the loans. The sixth count charged that Musgrave, as Chairman of the Board of the Association and aided and abetted by Womack and Bryant, fraudulently caused the Association to make the loans, knowing that they were not secured by sufficient collateral. The seventh count charged that Musgrave, aided and abetted by Womack and Bryant, unlawfully shared in the loan proceeds. Counts three and five were dismissed."

United States v. Womack, 5 Cir. 1972, 454 F.2d 1337, 1340.

[2]§ 371 provides in pertinent part:

"If two or more persons conspire either to commit any offense against the United States, or to defraud the United States, or any agency thereof in any manner or for any purpose, and one or more of such persons do any act to effect the object of the conspiracy, each shall be fined not more than $10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both."

[3]§ 657 provides in pertinent part:

"Whoever, being an officer, agent or employee of or connected in any capacity with *** any institution the accounts of which are insured by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation ***, embezzles, abstracts, purloins or willfully misapplies any monies, funds, credits, securities or other things of value belonging to such institution, or pledged or otherwise intrusted to its care, shall be fined not more than $5,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both ***."

[4]§ 1006 provides in pertinent part:

ment in purported plot to defraud the Home Savings Association of Odessa, Texas. Appellants' convictions in separate, prior trials were both reversed by this Court.[5] On retrial below, Musgrave was found guilty under Counts 1, 2, 4 and 6 and received a five-year concurrent sentence on each Count. Womack was convicted on Counts 1, 2 and 6 and acquitted on Count 4. He received a three-year concurrent sentence on each Count.

> "Whoever, being an officer, agent or employee of or connected in any capacity with *** any institution the accounts of which are insured by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation ***, with intent to defraud any such institution ***, makes any false entry in any book, report or statement of or to any such institution, or without being duly authorized, *** issues, puts forth or assigns any note, debenture, bond or other obligation, or draft, bill of exchange, mortgage, judgment, or decree, or, with intent to defraud the United States or any agency thereof, or any corporation, institution, or association referred to in this section, participates or shares in or receives directly or indirectly any money, profit, property, or benefits through any transaction, loan, commission, contract, or any other act of any such corporation, institution, or association, shall be fined not more than $10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both."

[5] In United States v. Musgrave, 5 Cir. 1971, 444 F.2d 755, Musgrave's initial conviction was reversed on several grounds — the trial judge exhibited a prosecutor's zeal by his inflammatory remarks to the jury and failed to instruct the jury on essential elements of the crimes charged in two of the Counts.

In addition, Bryant, who had been convicted along with Musgrave, was ordered acquitted because no substantial evidence existed to support the jury's verdict against him.

In United States v. Womack, 5 Cir. 1972, 454 F.2d 1337, Womack's conviction, procured in a subsequent trial, was reversed on the ground that the trial judge erred in not withdrawing from the case after having made derogatory comments (in the first trial) indicating Womack's complicity in the fraud.

Appellants' able counsel weave a hypertechnical web of ingenious arguments contending that the trial court made at least ten reversible errors. Nonetheless, we find that each appellant received a fair trial and we affirm.

THE PLOT TO DEFRAUD

The complex series of financial transactions which form the heart of the alleged fraud are lucidly delineated in this Court's prior opinions in *United States v. Musgrave*, 5 Cir. 1971, 444 F.2d 755, and *United States v. Womack*, 5 Cir. 1972, 454 F.2d 1337. We merely sketch the factual outline necessary for rational discussion of the contested portions of the trial below.

The government alleged, and the jury must have found, the existence of a single multi-stage conspiracy which had as its central purpose defrauding the Odessa Home Savings Association.

According to the prosecution, Musgrave, then Chairman of the Board of the Association, arranged for the granting of two loans — one to Womack and the other to Womack's nominee, Koon.[6] The loans were designed to enable Womack to purchase Musgrave's controlling interest in the Association [56% of the total outstanding shares]. Musgrave's attorney, Bryant, prepared the contract, disbursed the loan proceeds, and collected a large fee.

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[6]Koon was acquitted by the jury in the first trial, United States v. Musgrave, *supra*.

The two loans, purportedly prompted by Musgrave's manipulations, consisted of a $960,000 loan to Womack secured by Womack's interest in the Trans-American Building in Fort Worth, Texas, and a $500,000 loan to Koon secured by a 1,670 acre farm near Toyah, Texas.

The various charges in the indictment stripped to their core comprise one basic allegation — that the four individuals named in the indictment misled the Association into making two extraordinarily large loans secured by grossly inadequate collateral. The strength of this central allegation rests almost entirely on the testimony of two government, expert witnesses, Charles Herman and E. T. Compere, who calculated the fair market value of Womack's interest in the Trans-American Building to be $145,000 and $232,000, respectively. Compere also placed a $110,000 value on the Toyah farm.[7]

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[7]Both Herman and Compere were MAI appraisers, that is, members of the American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers of the National Association of Real Estate Boards.

Herman, in describing the Trans-American Building, testified that,

1) it is on the perimeter of a good office-financial area [App., Vol. I, p. 393];

2) it is a 17-story building [App., Vol. I, p. 393];

3) the building was constructed in the late 30's and is "sort of functionally obsolete in many respects today" [App., Vol. I, p. 394];

4) only 41% of the floor area was leased in October, 1968 [App., Vol. I, p. 399];

5) in the year prior to Herman's inspection the building produced an income of $88,101, but incurred expenses totaling $111,000, suffering a net loss of $23,000 [App., Vol. II, p. 430].

In his testimony, Herman delineated the three principal methods of appraisal:

1) The *reproduction cost approach* — the cost

Compared to the testimony of Herman and Compere, the original appraisals submitted to the Association by Musgrave (which set the value of Womack's interest in the Trans-American Building at $1,750,000 and the value of the Toyah farm at $667,000) were outrageously inflated.[8]

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of building the structure today minus depreciation (both physical deterioration and economic obsolescence), plus the value of the land (based on sales of comparable land in the area) [App., Vol. II, p. 407].

2) The *income or economic approach* — the gross income capability of the building with allowance for vacant floor area less operating expenses. The resulting net income is capitalized into an indication of the properties' value [App., Vol. II, p. 408].

3) The *market data approach* — a valuation based on the recent selling price of similar property in the vicinity of the appraised structure [App., Vol. II, p. 408].

Utilizing the reproduction cost approach, Herman estimated the value of the Trans-American Building and land to be $657,000 [App., Vol. II, p. 471]. However, he placed more credence on the income approach, which yielded a smaller figure. Correlating all three approaches, he arrived at an average value of $600,000 for the Trans-American Building.

On the crucial leasehold interest which Womack owned, Herman placed a value of only $145,000 [App., Vol. II, p. 473], and Compere the value of $230,000 [App., Vol. II, p. 677].

Mr. Compere, using the market data approach, derived a value of $110,000 for the Toyah farm based on the selling price of 13 comparable properties. [App., Vol. II, pp. 717, 743].

[8]Although the Musgrave-Womack contract called for MAI appraisals, Musgrave submitted valuations prepared by Vernon Thomas and himself, neither of whom were MAI qualified. Both of the appraisal figures submitted by Musgrave exceeded 133-1/3% of the loan totals — a requirement for a 75% loan.

ISSUES ON APPEAL

Musgrave raises eight issues on appeal, and Womack raises ten. With a few exceptions, each appellant seeks reversal on the same grounds. Some of the issues overlap, and others are too ephemeral to deserve extended discussion. Those asserted errors which merit appellate consideration are set out below with Musgrave's and Womack's distinct positions noted in the instances where they differ.

I. AIDING AND ABETTING AN ACQUITTED PRINCIPAL

A. *Count 4* — Count 4 of the indictment charged Musgrave and Womack with aiding and abetting Bryant who allegedly shared in the proceeds of the fraud. Both Appellants argue on appeal that Bryant's acquittal in the first trial constitutes a binding judicial pronouncement that Bryant's act was innocent, thereby absolving appellants from any crime predicated upon aiding Bryant.

In a three-pronged response, the government argues that Bryant's acquittal does not preclude conviction of Musgrave and Womack in a subsequent trial under Count 4 because:

1) Conviction of a principal is not a prerequisite to conviction of the principal's aider or abettor; the only indispensable element in the conviction of the aider is the existence of a criminal act.

2) The holding in *United States v. Musgrave, supra,* that no substantial evidence existed to support the jury's verdict on any of the counts against Bryant established only that the government had failed to prove its case against Bryant beyond a reasonable doubt; it did not clothe Bryant's act with a permanent cloak of innocence.

The testimony of Nathan Brown [App. pp. 333-370], not available at Bryant's trial, produced additional evidence at the second trial shedding new light on Bryant's link with the alleged fraud.

3) The court in *United States v. Musgrave, supra,* after ordering Bryant acquitted and reversing the conviction of Musgrave, remanded the case against Musgrave as to Count 4 impliedly endorsing reprosecution of Musgrave as Bryant's abettor, or at least recognizing the possibility of such reprosecution.

We agree with the government. Bryant's acquittal does not foreclose appellants' convictions under Count 4.

Neither of the two principal cases upon which the appellants rely — *Shuttlesworth v. Birmingham,* 1963, 373 U.S. 262, and *Edwards v. United States,* 1960, 286 F.2d 681 — are dispositive of the issue presented here.

The two petitioners in *Shuttlesworth,* Negro ministers charged with inciting and aiding Negro students

in a "sit-down demonstration," were held incapable of being guilty of aiding principals whose own convictions had been overturned on the ground that their peaceful sit-down demonstration was a constitutionally protected act. Hence, the court merely reiterated the long-standing maxim that "there can be no conviction for aiding and abetting someone to do an innocent act."

In *Edwards v. United States*, this Court reversed Edward's conviction for aiding and abetting the principal, Evans, on the ground that the trial court's charge to the jury erroneously directed a verdict of guilty against Edwards by referring to Evans' guilty plea when no documentation establishing the existence of the guilty plea had been introduced.

Neither of these cases control a situation like the instant case. *Shuttlesworth* stands for the proposition that an express judicial ruling that the principal's act was constitutionally protected [*i.e.*, innocent] precludes any convictions for aiding that act. In the present case, there has been no immutable ruling that Bryant's act was innocent; only a holding that insufficient evidence was developed in the first trial to establish Bryant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. *Edwards* merely requires that sufficient evidence be presented to the jury to provide a basis for establishing the guilt of the principal before anyone can be convicted of aiding that principal. In the instant case, the prosecution did present evidence purportedly implicating Bryant in the scheme to defraud and some of that evidence was not available at the prior trial of Bryant.

The government is, of course, barred by the Sixth Amendment from re-trying Bryant, but Bryant's acquittal is not res judicata as to Musgrave and Womack.

A judgment in a criminal case operates as res judicata in a second criminal case only where the parties to both proceedings are identical. *Smith v. United States*, 6 Cir. 1957, 243 F.2d 877; *United States v. Wapnick*, D.C.N.Y. 1961, 198 F.Supp. 359, *aff'd* 2 Cir. 1963, 315 F.2d 96, *cert. denied*, 374 U.S. 829. See 9 A.L.R. 3rd 203, 215. A judgment of acquittal of one defendant in a prior trial does not operate as res judicata in the prosecution of a second defendant in a later trial, even where the same transaction is involved and the second defendant is charged as an accessory to the first. *Roberts v. People*, 1938, 87 Pa. 2d 251, cited in Annotation, 9 A.L.R. 3rd 203, 218.

In the instant case, the doctrine of res judicata is inapplicable. The defendants in the two prosecutions are not identical. New evidence was presented at the second trial from which the jury could properly determine that the principal, Bryant, had sufficient knowledge of the fraud to establish his commission of a criminal act.[9]

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[9]Nathan Brown, a real estate investor who acted as agent for All-Ways, Inc., the predecessor in title to the Toyah farm, testified at the second trial that Bryant was present during negotiations between Brown and Womack culminating in sale of the farm to Womack for $167,000. In addition, Brown intimated that Bryant was aware of the fact that the title insurance company refused to insure title to all of the land transferred from All-Ways to Womack [App. pp. 344, 345].

B. *Count 1* — In Count 1 of the indictment, all four defendants were charged with conspiring to defraud the Odessa Home Savings Association. Of the twenty-three overt acts assertedly committed in furtherance of the conspiracy, eight were attributed to Bryant and Koon.

Citing *Herman v. United States*, 5 Cir. 1961, 289 F.2d 362, as authority, appellants argue that the trial court committed reversible error in sustaining their convictions while their coconspirators were acquitted in a prior trial on the same charge. Appellants further contend that, even if they can properly be found guilty of conspiring with acquitted codefendants, the prosecution is precluded from proving the conspiracy through overt acts attributable solely to the acquitted conspirators.

The appellant in *Herman v. United States, supra*, was indicted along with two others for conspiring to receive stolen goods in interstate commerce. The conspiracy count alleged two overt acts. One was expunged, and the other was allegedly committed by Herman's two codefendants who were both acquitted. In reversing Herman's conviction, this Court held that,

> "To complete the crime of conspiracy at least one of the conspirators must be charged with the performance of at least one overt act in furtherance of the conspiracy [citing cases]."

289 F.2d at 367. In *Herman*, the verdicts were returned by the same jury in a single joint trial.

As a general rule, the conviction of only one defendant in a conspiracy prosecution will not be upheld where all the other alleged coconspirators are acquitted. *Farnsworth v. Zerbst*, 5 Cir. 1938, 98 F.2d 541; *Thompson v. United States*, 5 Cir. 1955, 227 F.2d 671; 91 A.L.R.2d 700, 705; 97 A.L.R. 1311, 1316. This rule has withstood the criticism voiced in *People v. Rizzo*, 158 N.E. 888, 889, 55 A.L.R. 711, that a not guilty verdict is not necessarily synonymous with a declaration of innocence.

However, it is also generally held that where two or more defendants in a conspiracy prosecution have been lawfully convicted, the fact that additional defendants have been acquitted is immaterial.[10] Annotation, 91 A.L.R.2d 700, 704; *United States v. Austin-Bagley Corp.*, 2 Cir. 1929, 31 F.2d 229, 233.[11]

In the present case, two conspirators have been convicted, not just one, and, unlike the situation in *Herman*, overt acts were attributed both to the convicted defendants and to those theretofore found not guilty.

The authorities discussed are not precisely applicable to the instant situation, because here separate trials were had. In Annotation, 91 A.L.R.2d 700, 731, the note author refers to a Nebraska case, *Platt v. State*, 1943, 8 N.W.2d 849, involving a situation analo-

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[10]Except in a situation like Herman v. United States, *supra*, where the only conspirator who committed any overt act is acquitted in a joint trial.

[11]In the case last cited, Judge Learned Hand noted the rational inconsistency of the holding, but explained why that was no more fatal than is the problem which arises when the verdicts upon two counts are logically inconsistent.

gous to, but chronologically the reverse of, the present case. There one defendant was convicted of conspiracy while his coconspirator, tried separately and subsequently, was acquitted. The first defendant then appealed, and the Nebraska court held that, unlike a situation in a joint trial where failure of proof as to one conspirator would amount to failure of proof as to both, in consecutive trials the acquittal of the conspirator in the second trial amounts to no more than failure of proof as to him. We are impressed by Justice Carter's scholarly opinion for the Nebraska Supreme Court.[12] After an exhaustive discussion of the few pertinent authorities, he concluded:

> "The rule contended for by defendant requires consistent verdicts at separate trials. We know of no sound reason for demanding such a result, unless such verdicts stem from the identical evidence. It is not unusual in other types of crimes for one of two defendants to be convicted and the other to be acquitted where both equally participated in the same crime. Can it be said that the law is so consistent that the acquittal of one affects a discharge of the other? The question answers itself. It seems illogical to say that after one conspirator has been properly convicted he may have a second opportunity to escape punishment by the verdict in another case in which the evidence was altogether different and in which he may not even appear or testify."

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[12]The decision has heretofore been cited with approval by this Circuit. Rosecrans v. United States, 1967, 378 F.2d 571, 567 n. 10.

8 N.W.2d 855.

The same rationale applies with equal force to the converse chronology of the instant case. Musgrave and Womack were convicted at a second trial where new and arguably significant evidence was introduced. Overt acts were allegedly committed both by appellants and by their acquitted codefendants. Assuming that the jury convicted appellants on the strength of the overt acts committed by their acquitted coconspirators, under the rationale of *Platt*, they might properly have done so. If, of course, the jury convicted appellants on the strength of the overt acts attributable to them, then the general rule that two or more conspirators may be convicted while others go free would be applicable.

II. BURDEN OF PROOF ON GOOD FAITH DEFENSE

In his charge to the jury on the claimed defense of good faith, the trial judge stated that:

> "As I have told you good faith on the part of the Defendant is a complete defense to the charge alleged in the indictment. For example, *if you believe beyond a reasonable doubt that the Defendant, Musgrave, in good faith* believed the market value of the collateral for the loans was adequate, or that he in good faith relied on the appraisals and financial statements submitted to him * * * then this good faith on his part is a complete defense to the relevant counts of the indictment."

[Emphasis added.] [App., Vol. IV, p. 1475.]

Continuing as to Womack, he charged:

> "Similarly, should you find that the Defendant Womack acted in good faith as I have defined it to you concerning the actions mentioned in the indictment, his good faith, belief and reliance on the appraisals and financial statements *** would likewise provide him a complete defense as to the relevant counts in the grand jury indictment."

[App., Vol. IV, pp. 1475-1476.]

Musgrave's attorney objected[13] to the good faith defense charge in the following exchange:

> "MR. SMITH: Further that in instructing on the good faith of the Defendant, Musgrave, that the Court placed an illegal burden of proof on the Defendant Musgrave as to good faith. And also placed on him the —
>
> "THE COURT: Well tell us in what respect it's an unlawful —
>
> "MR. SMITH: The Court put the burden on Musgrave to establish good faith and put the burden on the Government to establish bad faith beyond a reasonable doubt. And if I re-

[13]The objection of Musgrave's attorney was made after the jury had retired to consider its verdict, but he had not been accorded earlier adequate opportunity to make the objection (see App., Vol. IV, pp. 1482-1485) as required by Rule 51, F.R.Civ.P. Hence the objection was timely.

> call correctly, I do believe that the Court instructed the jury that as to good faith, it has the burden of Musgrave to prove his good faith beyond a reasonable doubt.
>
> "THE COURT: I sure didn't think I did. I'll call them back and recharge them on that if you think I did."

[Emphasis added.] [App., Vol. IV, p. 1486.]

At this juncture the prosecutor interrupted, "The only burden the Government has is to prove each and every essential element beyond a reasonable doubt and we don't have to negate a defense." [App. 1486.] The trial judge, with his train of thought apparently severed by that rejoinder, did not rule directly on the objection to the good faith charge, but stated: "That's right. All right, go ahead." [App. 1487.]

On appeal, both appellants urge reversal of their convictions on the ground that the quoted portion of the trial judge's charge erroneously placed on defendants the burden of proof with regard to the crucial issue of good faith. The prejudicial effect of that erroneous charge could not, appellants argue, be cured by an inconsistent instruction, because that would be to speculate upon which part of the charge the jury relied.

The government first contends that the failure of Musgrave's counsel to follow up on his objection to the good faith charge after the court offered to recall the jury amounted to an invitation of error and a conscious abandonment of the proffered object. Second,

the government argues that the whole charge, which contained numerous correct delineations of the reasonable doubt standard, cured any error contained in the isolated passage to which defendants object. We disagree with the first contention but agree with the second.

Musgrave's counsel's failure to reiterate his objection to the good faith charge was clearly not, as the government argues, an express abandonment of that objection. See *Locklear v. United States*, 5 Cir. 1968, 393 F.2d 729. Musgrave's counsel cannot be faulted for failure to object twice to the same charge. The trial Judge's initial response to the objection — the offer to recall the jury — plainly indicated the court's recognition of defense counsel's protest. Although defendants made a timely objection to the erroneous good faith charge, that charge, viewed in the context of the court's entire instruction to the jury, did not affect substantial rights of either of the appellants. See Rule 52(a), F.R.Crim.P.

This Court's ruling in *Price v. United States*, 5 Cir. 1953, 200 F.2d 652, does not belie our conclusion that the jurors in the present case, armed with the court's full charge, applied the correct legal principles to the dispositive facts. The holding in *Price* did not create an iron-clad rule but, like most appellate determinations of the prejudicial effect of an erroneous charge, hinged upon the facts and circumstances of that particular case. Our perusal of the original record in *Price* reveals that the trial judge delivered a short, formalistic, oral charge, mentioning the reasonable doubt

standard only twice. In his second and final instruction on reasonable doubt, the trial judge erroneously placed the burden of proof on the defendant, when he asserted that,

> "There is evidence here of acting on the advice of counsel. In connection therewith, if you find and believe from the evidence, beyond a reasonable doubt, that counsel George Wilson was empowered and authorized to act as agent for the purchaser of these stocks, and that the delivery to him consummated and completed the sale, then, and in that event, the defendant would be entitled to an acquittal."

[Original record in *Price v. United States, supra,* p. 345.] Given the clearly incorrect, culminating instruction on the burden of proving agency, the *Price* court, speaking through the present writer, understandably chose not to speculate as to which part of the charge (the initial correct instruction or the final erroneous one) the jury accepted.

Both *Price v. United States, supra,* and the case upon which the *Price* court relied, *Kotteakos v. United States,* 1945, 328 U.S. 750, involved situations radically different from the one which confronts us now. In *Kotteakos, supra,* p. 679, the Supreme Court stressed that the trial court's erroneous instruction "permeated the entire charge, indeed the entire trial." The pervasive error in the *Kotteakos* charge was held to have inevitably confused the jury; the one inadvertent remark

attacked by the appellants here was surrounded by a sea of impeccable instructions.

Each statement made by the judge to the jury must be examined in the light of the entire charge. *Gurleski v. United States*, 5 Cir. 1968, 405 F.2d 253; *Birnbaum*, 2 Cir. 1967, 373 F.2d 250, *cert. denied*, 389 U.S. 837. Isolated statements which appear prejudicial when taken out of context may be innocuous when viewed in the light of the entire trial. *Locklear v. United States*, *supra*, 393 F.2d 30; *United States v. Wilkinson*, 5 Cir. 1972, 460 F.2d 725, 732.

In his lengthy charge to the jury in the present case, the trial judge correctly depicted the reasonable doubt standard at least nine times [App., Vol. IV, pp. 1439, 1440, 1444, 1447, 1466.] and climaxed his instructions with the following admonition:

> "Now, in conclusion and summary, if the Government has established each and all of the essential elements contained and charged in the grand jury indictment beyond a reasonable doubt and all of the essential elements thereof beyond a reasonable doubt, then you should find the Defendant guilty on that particular count in the grand jury indictment." [App., Vol. IV, p. 1478.]

The cumulative effect of the total jury instruction cured any prejudicial effect of the lone erroneous charge.

III. DENIAL OF CONFRONTATION

The crucial evidence which exposed the inflated appraisals consisted of expert opinion testimony based in part on secondhand sources. For example: E. T. Compere estimated the value of the Toyah farm by comparison with sales of 13 comparable tracts of land. Compere's knowledge of the analogous land sales derived from out-of-court investigation of deed records and conversations with those involved in the sales; evidence of the parallel land value was not supported at trial by the introduction of certified deeds. [App., Vol. II, p. 777.]

Musgrave objected to the introduction of that expert opinion testimony, exemplified by Compere's valuation of the Toyah farm, based on secondhand sources. On appeal, he argues that its introduction both violated the hearsay rule and impermissibly encroached upon his sixth amendment right to confrontation.

In *United States v. Williams*, 5 Cir. 1971, 447 F.2d 1285, this Court, sitting en banc, ruled that:

> 1) The admission into evidence of the opinion testimony of an expert witness in a criminal prosecution based upon the witnesses' investigation of documents not introduced into evidence did not violate the defendant's sixth amendment right of confrontation where the witness was personally available for cross-examination;

2) the introduction of such evidence did not violate the hearsay rule; expert witness testimony may be based on secondhand sources even in criminal prosecutions.

There are no factual distinctions favorable to appellants between this case and *Williams;* hence, Musgrave's contention is foreclosed by *Williams.*

IV. IMPROPER CONSPIRACY/KNOWLEDGE CHARGE

In his charge to the jury, the trial judge stated that,

> "One may become a member of a conspiracy without full knowledge of all the details of the conspiracy or without being acquainted with all of the other conspirators."

[App., Vol. IV, p. 1457.]

Musgrave's attorney objected to this portion of the conspiracy charge, explaining that,

> "As to the issue on conspiracy that the Court, by the manner in which it charged on conspiracy, eliminated from the requirement that the Defendant Musgrave have actual knowledge of the falsity, if any, of the alleged appraisal reports and the inadequacy of the alleged inadequate appraisal reports."

[App., Vol. IV, p. 1485.]

Appellants rely upon *United States v. Massiah*, 2 Cir. 1962, 307 F.2d 62, to support their contention that use of the contested charge constituted reversible error. In *Massiah*, a prosecution for conspiracy to import prohibited drugs, two judges of the three-judge panel voted for reversal of the convictions on the conspiracy count, reasoning that the trial court's charge, identical to the contested charge in the instant case, constituted an impermissible suggestion to the jury that knowledge of importation was not necessary for conviction under the conspiracy count.

Nonetheless, we think that that ruling is inapplicable to the instant case. The court in *Massiah* (that is, the majority as concerns this issue) repeatedly stressed that, "the trial judge failed *at any point* in his charge on the conspiracy count to instruct the jury that knowledge of illegal importation was a necessary element of the conspiracy." 307 F.2d at 70. The trial judge in *Massiah* charged the necessity of knowledge on the substantive counts but not on the conspiracy count. The crucial error stemmed not from an incurable weakness in the quoted charge, but from a failure to supplement that charge with one clearly delineating the requirement of knowledge for conviction under the conspiracy count.

In the present case, the trial judge a number of times carefully explained the requirement of knowledge for conviction under the conspiracy count, and in the sentence immediately succeeding the disputed language stated that, "On the other hand, a person who has no knowledge of a conspiracy but happens to act in a way

which furthers some object or purpose of the conspiracy does not thereby become a conspirator." [App., Vol. IV, p. 1457.]

The precise language contained in the isolated charge to which appellants object was, in fact, utilized by the Supreme Court in *Blumenthal v. United States*, 1947, 332 U.S. 539, 557, where the Court reasoned:

> "Secrecy and concealment are essential features of successful conspiracy. The more completely they are achieved, the more successful the crime. Hence the law rightly gives room for allowing the conviction of those discovered upon showing sufficiently the essential nature of the plan and their connections with it, *without requiring evidence of knowledge of all its details or of the participation of others.*"

[Emphasis added.] See also cases cited in Wharton's *Criminal Law & Procedure*, Vol. I, p. 179 n. 4.

V. AMENDMENT OF THE GRAND JURY INDICTMENT/IMPEACHMENT OF DEFENSE WITNESS BRYANT

At the beginning of the trial, the judge read the full, original indictment to the jury without deleting the names of the acquitted conspirators, Bryant and Koon. [App., Vol. I, pp. 110-117.] Musgrave, whose defense was partially predicated upon reliance on advice of counsel, called his former attorney, Bryant, to testify as a defense witness. Musgrave's attorney argued that

the court's recital of Bryant's name in the indictment at the commencement of trial fatally undermined Musgrave's defense and improperly impeached Bryant's credibility. Accordingly, Musgrave's attorney requested leave to rehabilitate Bryant's veracity by proving that he had been acquitted. The trial judge refused that request [App. p. 1039] and, instead, concluded the trial by including in the jury charge a recital of the Grand Jury indictment with the acquitted conspirators' names excluded.

Musgrave argues on appeal that his conviction should be reversed because his chief defense witness' credibility was improperly impeached by proof of indictment without conviction. Womack relies on the opposite theory, that the court's exclusion of the acquitted coconspirators' names in its second reading of the indictment amounted to an impermissible amendment of a substantive portion of the Grand Jury indictment. Neither of the appellants point to an error requiring reversal.

A. Assuming that the court's oblique reference by its reading of the entire grand jury indictment, to Bryant's prior status as a defendant amounted to a viable impairment of Bryant's credibility, the incident when viewed in context was neither improper nor fatally prejudicial.

Although it is true that the mere fact of an arrest or indictment of a witness is not normally admissible

for impeachment purposes,[14] it is also true that where the evidence of an arrest or accusation arises out of the transaction from which the trial arose, it is admissible to show interest or bias on the part of the witness. *Mallory v. United States*, 9 Cir. 1942, 126 F.2d 192; *Alford v. United States*, 1931, 282 U.S. 687; 20 A.L.R.2d 1421, 1446. In *United States v. Dardi*, 5 Cir. 1964, 330 F.2d 316, a similar case arising in this Circuit, the government was allowed to introduce evidence of the defense witness' arrest for embezzlement to show his bias and hostility towards the key prosecution witness who was responsible for the defense witness' arrest.

In the instant case, although Bryant has been acquitted, his prior status as a coindictee certainly suggested a personal interest in the litigation,[15] a potential lack of complete impartiality.

The decision in *Michelson v. United States*, 1948, 335 U.S. 469, upon which Musgrave relies, did not involve an attempt to impeach a witness' credibility by showing his bias and is therefore inapplicable.

B. It is clear, as appellant Womack contends, that an indictment may not be amended consistent with

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[14]Wigmore explains the rule as founded upon the realization that, "the fact of arrest or indictment is quite consistent with innocence, and *** the reception of such evidence is merely the reception of somebody's hearsay assertion as to the witness' guilt," Wigmore on Evidence, Vol. IIIA, § 980a, p. 835.

[15]In analogous cases where a nonacquitted coindictee testified for the accused, his situation has been viewed as one tempting him to exonerate the other accused and thus help towards his own freedom. See Wigmore on Evidence, Vol. IIIA, § 967, p. 816.

the Fifth Amendment except by resubmission to the grand jury. *Russell v. United States*, 1962, 369 U.S. 749, 770; *Ex parte Bain*, 1887, 121 U.S. 1. However, it is equally clear that withdrawal of a portion of the indictment not supported by the evidence is not an impermissible amendment, providing that nothing is added to the indictment and the remaining allegations charge an offense. *United States v. Ballard*, 1944, 322 U.S. 78, 90-91 (Stone, C.J., dissenting); *Overstreet v. United States*, 5 Cir. 1963, 321 F.2d 459; Wright, *Federal Practice and Procedure: Criminal*, § 127, p. 275.

The statement in *Russell v. United States, supra* p. 770, that "* * * in the federal courts * * * an indictment may not be amended except by resubmission to the grand jury, unless the change is merely a matter of form," has been interpreted by this Court to be only a restatement of the general rule and not an expression intended to restrict the liberal deletion of surplusage from indictments. *Marsh v. United States*, 5 Cir. 1965, 344 F.2d 317, 322.

The deletion of the names of Bryant and Koon from the indictment in the present case was a nonprejudicial exclusion of surplusage, invited by appellants, and insignificant in its effect.

We are impressed by the scrupulously fair rulings of the able trial judge. While he failed to attain a standard of perfection, a careful consideration of the entire record convinces us that the appellants were fairly tried and convicted. We find no reversible error. The judgments of conviction are

AFFIRMED.

APPENDIX C

IN THE
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

No. 72-2305

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff-Appellee,
versus

KENNETH L. MUSGRAVE and
MARSHALL WOMACK,
Defendants-Appellants.

Appeals from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas

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ON PETITIONS FOR REHEARING

(August 2, 1973)

Before RIVES, GOLDBERG and MORGAN, Circuit Judges.

RIVES, Circuit Judge: The opinion of this Court entered June 29, 1973, is modified by substituting for part V (slip opinion pages 24-27, inclusive) the following:

V. *AMENDMENT OF THE GRAND JURY INDICTMENT/IMPEACHMENT OF DEFENSE WITNESS BRYANT*

The first count of the indictment as drawn by the Grand Jury was worded as follows:

> "From on or about May 25, 1968, the exact date being to the grand jury unknown, and continuously thereafter until on or about July 25, 1968, in the Midland-Odessa Division of the Western District of Texas, and at divers other places without the jurisdiction of this Court, *Kenneth L. Musgrave, Marshall Womack, Jack Bryant, and Homer E. Koon, Jr., defendants herein,* willfully and knowingly did combine, conspire, confederate and agree together and with each other, and with persons whose names to the grand jury are not known, to commit offenses against the United States * * *." (Emphasis added.)

In reading the indictment to the jury, the trial judge altered the charging language of Count One so that Bryant and Koon were listed as coconspirators, but not as codefendants:

> "From on or about May 25, 1968, the exact date being to the grand jurors unknown, and continuously thereafter until on or about July 25, 1968, in the Midland-Odessa Division of the Western District of Texas, and at divers other places without the jurisdiction of this Court,

> ***Kenneth L. Musgrave and Marshall Womack, defendants herein, and Jack Bryant and Homer E. Koon, Jr.,*** **willfully and knowingly did combine, conspire, confederate and agree together and with each other, and with persons whose names to the grand jury are not known, to commit offenses against the United States * * *." (Emphasis added.)**

Musgrave, whose defense was partially predicated upon reliance on advice of counsel, called his former attorney, Bryant, to testify as a defense witness. Musgrave's attorney argued that the court's recital of Bryant's name in the indictment as a coconspirator fatally undermined Musgrave's defense and improperly impeached Bryant's credibility. Accordingly, Musgrave's attorney requested leave to rehabilitate Bryant's veracity by proving that he had been acquitted in a prior trial. The trial judge refused that request [App. p. 1039].

Musgrave argues on appeal that his conviction should be reversed because his chief defense witness' credibility was improperly impeached by reference to his status as a coconspirator without proof of conviction. Womack argues, on the other hand, that the court's alteration of the language in Count One amounted to an impermissible amendment of a substantive portion of the Grand Jury indictment. Neither of the appellants points to an error requiring reversal.

A. Assuming that the court's reference to Bryant as a coconspirator amounted to a viable impairment

of Bryant's credibility, the incident when viewed in context was neither improper nor fatally prejudicial.

Although it is true that the mere fact of an arrest or indictment of a witness[14] is not normally admissible for impeachment purposes,[15] it is also true that where the evidence of an arrest or accusation arises out of the transaction from which the trial arose, it is admissible to show interest or bias on the part of the witness. *Mallory v. United States*, 9 Cir. 1942, 126 F.2d 192; *Alford v. United States*, 1931, 282 U.S. 687; 20 A.L.R.2d 1421, 1446. In *United States v. Dardi*, 2 Cir. 1964, 330 F.2d 316, a similar case arising in this Circuit, the government was allowed to introduce evidence of the defense witness' arrest for embezzlement to show his bias and hostility towards the key prosecution witness who was responsible for the defense witness' arrest.

In the instant case, although Bryant had been acquitted, his prior status as a coindictee certainly suggested a personal interest in the litigation,[16] a potential lack of complete impartiality.

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[14]Musgrave argues that the practical effect of listing Bryant as a coconspirator is the same as listing him as a codefendant — the jury will inevitably guess at his guilt or innocence. For purposes of argument, we assume that observation to be correct.

[15]Wigmore explains the rule as founded upon the realization that, "the fact of arrest or indictment is quite consistent with innocence, and * * * the reception of such evidence is merely the reception of somebody's hearsay assertion as to the witness' guilt." Wigmore on Evidence, Vol. IIIA, § 980a, p. 835.

[16]In analogous cases where a nonacquitted coindictee testified for the accused, his situation has been viewed as one tempting him to exonerate the other accused and thus help towards his own freedom. See Wigmore on Evidence, Vol. IIIA, § 967, p. 816.

The decision in *Michelson v. United States*, 1948, 335 U.S. 469, upon which Musgrave relies, did not involve an attempt to impeach a witness' credibility by showing his bias and is therefore inapplicable.

B. It is clear, as appellant Womack contends, that an indictment may not be amended consistent with the Fifth Amendment except by resubmission to the grand jury. *Russell v. United States*, 1962, 369 U.S. 749, 770; *Ex parte Bain*, 1887, 121 U.S. 1. However, it is equally clear that withdrawal of a portion of the indictment not supported by the evidence is not an impermissible amendment, providing that nothing is added to the indictment and the remaining allegations charge an offense. *United States v. Ballard*, 1944, 322 U.S. 78, 90-91 (Stone, C.J., dissenting); *Overstreet v. United States*, 5 Cir. 1963, 321 F.2d 459, Wright, *Federal Practice and Procedure: Criminal*, §127, p. 275.

The statement in *Russell v. United States, supra* p. 770, that "* * * in the federal courts * * * an indictment may not be amended except by resubmission to the grand jury, unless the change is merely a matter of form," has been interpreted by this Court to be only a restatement of the general rule and not an expression intended to restrict the liberal deletion of surplusage from indictments. *Marsh v. United States*, 5 Cir. 1965, 344 F.2d 317, 322.

By deleting from the indictment the reference to Bryant and Koon as codefendants, while retaining the reference to the same pair as coconspirators, the trial court added nothing to the indictment and subtracted

only surplusage. The remaining allegations charged precisely the same offense.

We are impressed by the scrupulously fair rulings of the able trial judge. While he failed to attain a standard of perfection, a careful consideration of the entire record convinces us that the appellants were fairly tried and convicted. We find no reversible error. The judgments of conviction are affirmed.

The separate petitions for rehearing filed by the defendant-appellant Musgrave and by the defendant-appellant Womack are

DENIED.

APPENDIX D

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff-Appellee,

versus No. 72-2305

KENNETH L. MUSGRAVE and
MARSHALL WOMACK,
Defendants-Appellants.

ON CONSIDERATION OF THE APPLICATION of the Appellant, Marshall Womack, in the above numbered and entitled cause for a stay of the mandate

of this Court therein, to enable Marshall Womack to apply for and to obtain a writ of certiorari from the Supreme Court of the United States, IT IS ORDERED that the issue of the mandate of this Court in said cause be, and the same is stayed to and including September 1, 1973, the stay to continue in force until the final disposition of the case by the Supreme Court, provided that within the period above mentioned there shall be filed with the Clerk of this Court the certificate of the Clerk of the Supreme Court that certiorari petition has been filed. It is further ordered that the Clerk shall issue the mandate upon the filing of a copy of an order of the Supreme Court denying the writ, or upon the expiration of the stay granted herein, unless the above mentioned certificate shall be filed with the Clerk of this Court within that time.

/s/ RICHARD T. RIVES
UNITED STATES
CIRCUIT JUDGE

[Filed: Aug. 2, 1973]

APPENDIX E

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MIDLAND-ODESSA DIVISION

Filed: June 5, 1972

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Criminal No.
versus **MO-69-CR-14**

KENNETH L. MUSGRAVE AND
MARSHALL WOMACK

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Notice is hereby given that MARSHALL WOMACK, one of the Defendants above named, hereby appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit from the final judgment and sentence entered in this proceeding, which said judgment and sentence was pronounced in open court on Thursday, May 25, 1972.

DATED: June 2, 1972.

BROWN & HARDING
1601 Broadway
Lubbock, Texas 79401

Attorneys for the Appellant,
Marshall Womack
/s/ CLIFFORD W. BROWN